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October 12, 2001

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Ms. Carol Hanlon
S&ER Products Manager
U. S. Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

I write today to request that the Department of Energy recommend to President George Bush that the Yucca Mountain, Nevada site under consideration be designated the national repository for high-level radioactive waste and spent fuel.

The DOE has spent years looking for a suitable location and the Yucca Mountain site would appear to meet the requirements for this much-needed disposal facility. Spent fuel and high level radioactive waste are accumulating at nuclear facilities throughout the country and while the better option is to consolidate this storage in a single location.

The nuclear industry has been handling, storing and transporting spent nuclear fuel for years and the containers used for these purposes have been designed and built to specifications that can withstand extreme conditions. These containers have been put through exhaustive testing and have an outstanding record of safety and performance.

The National Academy of Sciences recently affirmed that the geologic disposal is the only scientifically and technically credible solution to the high-level radioactive waste storage issue. The scientific evidence concludes that Yucca Mountain meets or exceeds the criteria for this type of facility.

For these reasons, I urge the Department to recommend the Yucca Mountain site to President Bush.

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Sincerely,

Patrick O'Connor